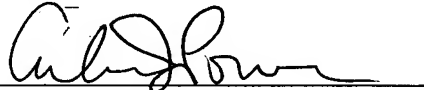


**REMARKS**

The present preliminary amendment is submitted in order to correct the improper multiple dependency of claims as originally filed and to conform the application with U.S. practice.

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Arlene J. Powers', is written over a horizontal line.

Arlene J. Powers  
Registration No. 35,985  
Samuels, Gauthier & Stevens  
225 Franklin Street, Suite 3300  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110  
Telephone: (617) 426-9180  
Extension 110